Materials, Advanced Seiconductor Devices, Photonics/Optoelectronics and High Performance Computing are covered under the Technology Missions. Technology Missions launched by the Department of Electronics are based on the review of relevant frontier technologies and specific needs of the country and industry. Since funds available are limited, the Department of Electronics is concentrating first to implement the identified Missions and no new Mission is proposed to be added at present.

Local Duplication of International Software

2166. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for allowing local duplication of international software is being devised;

(b) if so, what is the nature of the scheme;

(c) whether suggestions are being solicited from concerned NGO in this regard; and

(d) by when the scheme is likely to be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) The policy of the Government as regards software duplication was framed in consultation with the Indian Information Technology Industry; and has already been notified vide Reserve Bank of India circular dated 29-3-93. The salient features of this policy are as follows:—

— Indian Software reproducers may conclude agreements without prior approval for software duplication with the overseas copyright holders for payment of royalty, on the basis of Indian Published Price.

— If the agreed rate of royalty to be remitted does not exceed 30% of the Indian Published Price then no prior approval is required and royalty can be paid through any authorised dealer in the country.

— If the rate of royalty to be remitted exceeds 30% of the Indian Published Price, then prior approval of Department of Electronics is required.

Software Technology Parks

2167. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Software Technology Park (STP) in Nagpur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Establishment of The Software Support Services and Education Centre

2168. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of the establishment of the Software Support, Services and Education Centre in India under the Indo-EC Memorandum of Technical Co-operation;

(b) where the Centre is proposed to be set up;

(c) what are the total finances required for the full setting up of the Centre; and

(d) the amount financed by the EC (European Community)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) The Expenditure Finance Committee on 13-7-93 has approved establishment of a Software Services, Support and Education Centre at Bangalore. Accordingly, premises has been hired for locating the Centre. Recruitment of staff, furnishing of the

building, procurement of hardware and software is under progress.

(c) and (d) Out of the total finance of Rs. 895 lakhs required for setting up the Centre, Rs. 511 lakhs is to be provided by the Commission of the European Communities.

Project for the Development of Application Specific Integrated Circuits for Digital T.V.

2169. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DOE has a project for the Development of Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASICs) for Digital T.V. (DTV) in the country;

(b) if so, what is the nature of this project;

(c) whether a working model of the DTV using FPGA clips has been developed;

(d) if not, what are the reasons for this delay; and

(e) how would the Doordarshan benefit from this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) The Government of India, Department of Electronics have initiated a project on System & VLSI Design (FPGA version) for Digital TV Receiver for implementation by leading academic and R&D institutions in the country.

(c) and (d) The work on development of prototype using FPGA chips is in progress.

(e) This Digital TV Receiver is aimed at improving the performance of Analogue TV Receiver and would be compatible with the present transmission of Doordarshan in the country. With this design, it would be easier to offer additional features such as flicker free operation, teletext, ghost cancellation, etc.

Decline in the Production of Colour TV Receivers

2170. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the production of colour TV receivers in India;

(b) whether because of this the production of components like picture tubes, defection components, tuners etc. has declined; and

(c) if so, what is the reason for this decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The primary reasons for this decline in production during past 3 years had been lack of demand, increase in prices on account of decline in value of rupee vis-a-vis foreign currency and high Excise and Customs Duties.

Sale of Shares of Shipping Corporation of India

@2171. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of shares of Shipping Corporation of India were recently sold under the P.S.U. disinvestment scheme;

(b) the amount realised from this sale; and

(c) the names of the brokers who facilitated this sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) During 1992-93 no share of Shipping Corporation of India was sold.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

@ Previously Unstarred Question 1295, Transferred from 4-8-93.